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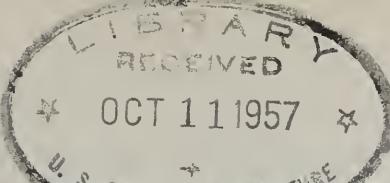


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# National 4-H ACHIEVEMENT DAY

932214

NOVEMBER 10, 1956



Nearly 2,156,000 4-H Club boys and girls will be honored for outstanding accomplishments on National 4-H Achievement Day--Saturday, November 10. Sharing their recognition will be more than 357,600 men, women, and young people who serve as volunteer local leaders of about 89,600 clubs throughout the country.

What Members Have Done: In the past year, 4-H'ers have completed nearly 3,563,000 individual projects in farming, homemaking, community service, and other activities. They have produced and conserved food, feed, and fiber; sewed and cooked; improved and beautified their homes; made their farms more efficient; stressed personal health and safety; protected our natural resources and wildlife; conserved the soil; and cooperated in a wide variety of community services.

During the year they have given major attention to gaining a better understanding of marketing and consumer buying, to finding ways to improve quality of production, to farm and home development, community betterment, and an expanded program of activities particularly challenging to older teen-agers. For older youth, emphasis has been placed on choosing a career, especially in agriculture or home economics or related fields, in many clubs.

How Achievement Day Will Be Observed: Although the 4-H program is national in scope and worldwide in influence, the center of interest during the recognition period will be the local community, town, and county. Here plans for the occasion will include luncheons, banquets, and other events--local and countywide--where 4-H'ers, leaders, and parents will be guests and speakers. Farm organizations, civic and service clubs, and other groups will invite the young people to make talks or give reports at their meetings; and leaders, extension agents, and others who help with club work, will participate in special programs.

Newspapers, and radio and television stations, will carry news and features. Exhibits illustrating typical activities will be prepared and put in store windows and other prominent places--all highlighting the completion of another year's efforts toward Improving Family and Community Living, the continuing theme for 1956.

The 4-H program is a part of the national educational system of cooperative extension work in which the U. S. Department of

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Federal Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington 25, D. C.

Agriculture, the State land-grant colleges, and the counties share. National leadership is in the Federal Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., and State leadership in the land-grant colleges. Two important groups helping further the program are the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Chicago; and the National 4-H Club Foundation, Silver Spring, Md.

Who Belongs to 4-H Clubs: Any boy or girl between 10 and 21 years of age may join a 4-H Club by agreeing to follow 4-H ideals and standards. The club slogan is "learning by doing," and the club motto, "making the best better." The four H's refer to head, heart, hands, and health, which are cornerstones in the program.

Examples of Specific 4-H Accomplishments in the Past Year\*: Members --

Owned and cared for 1,324,900 head of livestock.

Owned and cared for 9,547,385 birds in their poultry projects.

Grew 904,100 acres of food, feed, and fiber crops.

Improved about 385,700 acres through soil and water conservation and management projects.

Canned and preserved 5,469,470 quarts of vegetables, fruits, and other foods.

Froze 3,040,500 pounds of food and 2,135,900 quarts of food.

Prepared 24,820,100 dishes and served 12,283,470 meals.

Completed 1,475,680 garments and 1,691,430 other articles in sewing.

About 150,600 members enrolled in home grounds beautification programs.

More than 189,600 enrolled in home furnishings and room improvement; 104,460 in home management.

Nearly 48,300 enrolled in child care projects.

More than 803,800 took safety training and participated in safety programs, including fire and accident prevention.

About 651,000 received training in health, nursing, and first aid.

About 68,700 clubs carried on community service projects to benefit themselves and their neighbors.

Nearly 103,200 older members took training courses to help them as junior leaders. (Among the most rapidly growing projects are electric, tractor, farm shop, and entomology.)

"Grassroots Ambassadors": Through the International Farm Youth Exchange, sponsored by the National 4-H Club Foundation and the Extension Service, many people in distant lands have become acquainted with the 4-H program. This year 306 young men and women took part in the program of family, farm, and community activities in other countries. Included were 126 outbound United States delegates representing 36 States and Territories, and 180 inbound exchangees representing 44 countries.

The 4-H Club idea now reaches around the world, the plan having been adapted to suit varying needs and conditions in some 40 different countries.

More information on 4-H Club work and on National 4-H Achievement Day may be obtained from any county 4-H Club agent, agricultural agent, or home demonstration agent; the Cooperative Extension Service of the State land-grant college; or the Federal Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

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\*Latest figures available are for 1955. Preliminary reports indicate these will be equaled and, in most instances, exceeded in 1956.



